

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY VIENNA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI PRIORITY

USDEL SALT TWO PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY BONN

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION BERLIN

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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DISTO/ SALT

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TAGS: US, PINT, PARM, XG

SUBJECT: AMERICAN PRESS COVERAGE

GENEVA FOR KRAUS ALSO

VIENNA FOR MBFR DELEGATION

HELSINKI FOR MPT

INFO FOR PAOS

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1. HIGHLIGHTS. THURSDAY BALTSUN FRONTPAGED SHULTZ IN
MOSCOW HOPEFUL ON TRADE; INSIDE HAD GALLUP POLL ON DEFENSE

BUDGET. FRIDAY PAPERS FEATURE NIXON AT PRESS CONFERENCE
WARNS HANOI ON WEAPONS SHIPMENTS.

1 A. INSIDE SOME HAVE BRIEF STORIES ON CCD; ALSO WASHINGTON
STUDYING JET- BORNE MISSILE PLAN, PLUS CONGRESSIONAL MOVES
ON TROOPS AND ON RUSSIA. SOME SALT COMMENT.

2. GENEVA. WASHPOST BRIEF, UNDER HEADING ARMS PROPOSAL,
REPORTS THAT EIGHT NEUTRAL NATIONS CALLED ON RUSSIA US TO
LEAD GENEVA DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE OUT OF AN IMPASSE AND
MAKE NEW EFFORTS TOWARD BANNING ALL NUCLEAR TESTS AND
CHEMICAL WEAPONS, STORY SAYING MEMORANDUM WAS SUBMITTED BY
MEXICO AND ENDORSED BY BURMA EGYPT ETHIOPIA MOROCCO NIGERIA
SWEDEN YUGOSLAVIA.

2 A. NYTIMES SPECIAL IS HEADED US AND SOVIET BLAMED FOR
LAGGING ARMS TALKS, STORY SAYING EIGHT NONALIGNED MEMBERS
OF DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE PROTESTED SHARPLY TODAY TO US
AND SOVIET UNION OVER ABSENCE OF TANGIBLE PROGRESS, THE
PROTEST BEING SUBMITTED AS A MEMORANDUM THAT PLACED ON THE
TWO MAJOR POWERS PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY TAKE THE REQUIRED
DECISIONS AND NECESSARY MEASURES TO SPUR THE 25- NATION
CONFERENCE' S WORK. STORY LISTS SIGNATORIES.

3. SALT. THURSDAY WASHSTAR HEADS COLUMN BY MILTON
VIORST, CLOUDS GATHER OVER GENEVA, VIORST SAYING SO FAR
SIGNS AT SALT TWO POINT TO A SIGNIFICANT DROP ON ADMINIS-
TRATION' S ENTHUSIASM FOR SALT FOLLOWING MORE CRITICISM
THAN NIXON EXPECTED ON SALT ONE FROM HAWKS AND PENTAGON
AND THIS SEEMS TO BE PRESIDENT' S YEAR TO SAY TO HELL WITH
THE LIBERALS AND TO MOLLIFY THE RIGHT. ACCORDING VIORST,
INITIAL TIPOFF WAS FIRING OF SMITH AND REPLACEMENT BY
JOHNSON, AN INNOCUOUS AND SHOPWORN OLD DIPLOMAT WHO,
UNLIKE SMITH, HAS NEITHER FIRST- HAND EXPERIENCE IN DIS-
ARMAMENT NOR A COMMITMENT TO THE SUCCESS OF THE NEGOTI-
ATIONS. VIORST REFERS TO WHITE HOUSE DISRUPTION OF ACDA
AND PERMITTED WITHERING AWAY OF COMMITTEE OF PRINCIPALS IN
WHICH ACDA HEAD PERIODICALLY MET HEADS OF STATE DEFENSE
AND OTHER BUREAUS TO DISCUSS DISARMAMENT PROPOSALS.
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PRESIDENT HAS ALSO DISBANDED AGENCY' S GENERAL ADVISORY
COMMITTEE, VIORST SAYS, AND SLASHED ACDA BUDGET THUS
LIMITING SEVERELY THE TECHNICAL STUDIES ON WHICH DISARMA-
MENT POLICIES AND NEGOTIATING POSITIONS ARE BASED.
ACCORDING VIORST, NIXON ADMINISTRATION HAS BECOME IN-
CREASINGLY INTOLERANT OF SUCH DEVIL' S ADVOCATES AS ACDA
WITHIN ITS RANKS, THE PRESIDENT PREFERRING TO BE SUR-
ROUNDED BY MEN WHO WILL BULWARK HIS OPINIONS RATHER THAN
CHALLENGE THEM. WITHOUT ACDA, SAYS VIORST, WE WOULD BE
BACK TO THE OLD DAYS WITH PENTAGON PROVIDING ALL THE

ADVICE ON DISARMAMENT MATTERS-- AND YOU KNOW WHAT THE PRESIDENT WILL HEAR FROM THERE. VORST CONCLUDES BY SAYING SALT ONE CAME AFTER A GLOOMY START AND IT MAY BE TOO EARLY TO DESPAIR ABOUT SALT TWO BUT PROSPECTS RIGHT NOW ARE DISCOURAGING.

3 A. BALTSUN HAS WASHINGTON REUTER REPORTING US AIR FORCE IS STUDYING DEVELOPMENT OF A NEW NUCLEAR WEAPON DELIVERY SYSTEM IN WHICH LONG- RANGE STRATEGIC MISSILES WOULD BE LAUNCHED FROM AIRCRAFT, ACCORDING TO INTERVIEW WITH GEN. GLASSER PUBLISHED IN AIR FORCE MAGAZINE, GLASSER SAYING THE OBVIOUS WAY TO AMELIORATE FUTURE VULNERABILITIES OF ICMB SYSTEMS IS TO CHANGE FROM FIXED SITES TO MOBILE

BASES. THURSDAY WASHSTAR HAD LONGER PIECE ON SAME SUBJECT BY ORR KELLY.

4. POLL. THURSDAY BALTSUN HAD SHORT VERSION OF GALLUP POLL WHICH NOW FINDS 42 PERCENT OF ALL PERSONS INTERVIEWED SAYING US IS SPENDING TOO MUCH DEFENSE AND MILITARY PURPOSES, WITH ONLY 8 PERCENT SAYING TOO LITTLE AND 40 PERCENT SAYING ABOUT RIGHT. GALLUP ADDS THAT PERCENTAGE SAYING TOO MUCH HAS DECLINED FROM 50 PERCENT TWO YEARS AGO WHEN VIETNAM WAR WAS COSTING MANY BILLIONS AND HAD REACHED A HIGH POINT IN PUBLIC DISFAVOR.

5. CONGRESSIONAL. BALTSUN HEADS WASHINGTON REUTER, DEMOCRATS BACK EUROPE TROOP CUTS, STORY SAYING SENATE DEMOCRATS VOTED OVERWHELMINGLY YESTERDAY IN FAVOR OF SUBSTANTIALLY REDUCING THE OVERSEAS FORCE OF 600,000 AMERICAN TROOPS WITHIN 18 MONTHS, REUTER ADDING THIS RESOLUTION WAS PASSED BY A CAUCUS OF SENATE DEMOCRATS
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IN A REVIVAL OF CONGRESSIONAL PRESSURE FOR CUTS IN US TROOP STRENGTH IN WESTERN EUROPE. RESOLUTION, SAYS REUTER, ORIGINALLY CALLED FOR A TWO- THIRDS REDUCTION BUT WAS CHANGED BY VOICE VOTE ON MOTION BY BENTSEN, CHAIRMAN OF NATO SUBCOMMITTEE OF MBFR WHICH IS KEEPING AN EYE ON CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS WITH WARSAW COUNTRIES. REUTER REPORTS MANSFIELD DECLINED TO GIVE THE EXACT VOTING FIGURES BUT SAID LESS THAN HALF A DOZEN MEMBERS OF THE 55- MEMBER CAUCUS VOTED AGAINST THE RESOLUTION AND ABSENT MEMBERS WERE STILL BEING CONTACTED FOR THEIR VOTES.

5 A. BALTSUN HEADS STORY FROM ITS WASHINGTON BUREAU, MANSFIELD URGES END TO ASIA FORCES, STORY SAYING SENATOR IN PREPARED SPEECH AT JOHNS HOPKINS SCHOOL OF ADVANCED INTERNATIONAL STUDIES LAST NIGHT CALLED FOR A DELIBERATE PHASEOUT OF ALL AMERICAN INSTALLATIONS AND FORCES IN ASIA

AS PART OF A SWEEPING REVISION OF US SECURITY COMMITMENTS THERE, SENATOR ALSO RECOMMENDING RE- EXAMINATION OF TREATY WITH TAIWAN AND SEATO. MANSFIELD ARGUED, STORY SAYS, THAT TROOPS ON MAINLAND AND OFFSHORE ISLANDS ARE ANACHRONISMS IN VIEW OF RAPIDLY IMPROVING RELATIONS WITH CHINA, SENATOR ADDING THAT THESE COMMITMENTS HAVE TACITLY ASSUMED US IS AN ASIA POWER, WHICH IT IS NOT, WITH A PRIME RESPONSIBILITY FOR INFLUENCING AND CONTROLLING CHANGE ON THE ASIA MAINLAND. US WILL CONTINUE TO HAVE INTEREST AND RESPONSIBILITIES IN PACIFIC WHICH EXTEND TO WESTERN REACHES OF OCEAN BUT THESE DO NOT COMPEL US TO CONTINUE TO MAINTAIN 260,000 ARMED MEN ON CONTINENT AND ISLANDS, MANSFIELD DECLARED.

5 B. NYTIMES HEADS FINNEY WASHINGTON, JACKSON PRESSES FOR SOVIET SHIFT, REFILES HIS MEASURE LINKING TRADE WITH EXIT FEES. FINNEY QUOTES ROGERS SAYING LAST WEEKEND THAT CONGRESSIONAL FAILURE TO APPROVE THE RUSSIAN TRADE AGREEMENT WOULD BE A VERY SERIOUS SETBACK FOR OUR FOREIGN POLICY BUT ON CAPITOL HILL JACKSON AND JAVITS ARE SAYING THEY ARE NOT BLUFFING AND WILL NOT BACK DOWN, ALTHOUGH RIBICOFF SAYS THERE IS STILL TIME TO AVOID AN OPEN CONFRONTATION BUT NEXT MOVE IS UP TO MOSCOW AND HE HOPES OUR DIPLOMATS AT HIGHEST LEVELS ARE CONVEYING THIS
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MESSAGE.

5 C. WASHPOST RICH REPORTS SENATE SET STAGE YESTERDAY FOR A PAIR OF MAJOR FOREIGN POLICY BATTLES WITH ADMINISTRATION, CITING CAUCUS VOTE WHICH BY MARGIN OF ABOUT 6 TO 1 DEMANDED BROAD OVERSEAS MILITARY CUTBACKS CITING PAYMENTS DEFICIT AND NEED TO HOLD DOWN BUDGET, RICH ALSO CITING JACKSON JAVITS RIBICOFF MEASURE. RICH ADDS MANSFIELD SPEECH PROPOSED NEW MOVES TO CEMENT US RELATIONS WITH MAINLAND CHINA, INCLUDING REPEAL OF FORMOSA RESOLUTION, WITHDRAWAL OF FORCES AND MILITARY AID FROM TAIWAN, PHASING OUT OF BASES AND TROOPS IN KOREA THAILAND JAPAN, AND EXTENSION OF MFN TO CHINA. RICH REPORTS THAT OUT OF 42 DEMOCRATS PRESENT, JACKSON AND MCGEE VOTED AGAINST TROOP REDUCTION RESOLUTION, JACKSON TERMING IT THE HEIGHT OF IRRESPONSIBILITY AND ADDING: I JUST CAN' T BELIEVE THAT IN MIDST OF NEGOTIATIONS ON FORCE REDUCTION IN EUROPE WE WOULD PASS A RESOLUTION LIKE THIS; WHAT WOULD BE LEFT FOR RUSSIANS TO NEGOTIATE FOR?

6. PRESIDENT' S TRAVEL. TEXTS OF PRESIDENT' S NEWS CONFERENCE INCLUDE SECTION OF NIXON' S FOREIGN TRAVEL PLANS, PRESIDENT SAYING HE HAS RECOMMENDATIONS FROM STATE AND NSC FOR WHAT THEY CONSIDER TO BE URGENT TRAVEL, ONE TO EUROPE, BECAUSE OF OUR INTEREST IN NATO, SECOND TO

LATIN AMERICA BECAUSE I'VE NOT YET HAD OPPORTUNITY TO GO
THERE, AND THIRD TO AFRICA. PRESIDENT ADDED: WE ARE
CONSIDERING THE POSSIBILITY OF A TRIP SOMETIME DURING
THE SUMMER OR SHORTLY BEFORE THE SUMMER BEGINS BUT WE
HAVEN' T YET MADE A DECISION. ROGERS

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